Architectural Thesis

Designs

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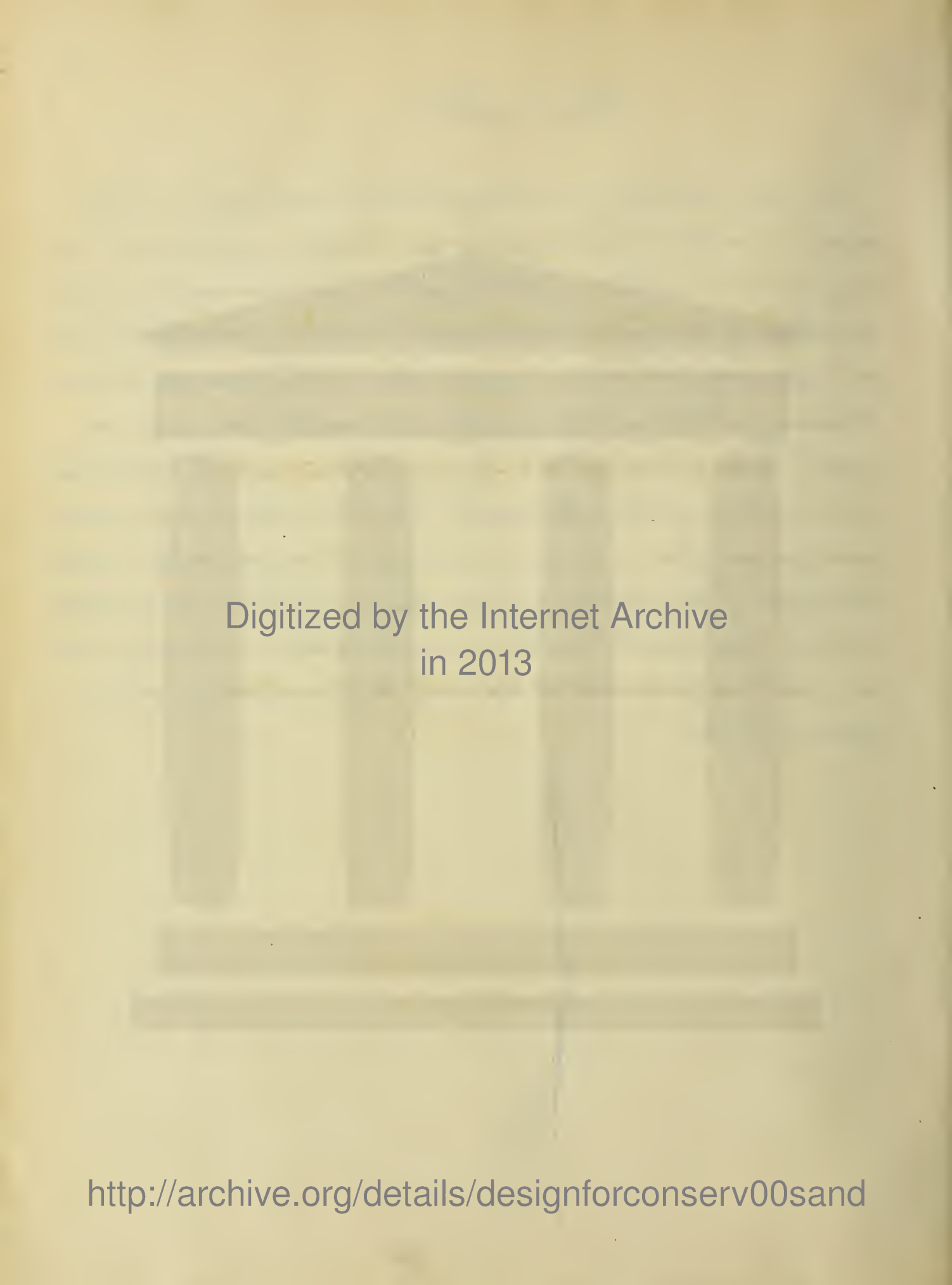
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DESIGN FOR
A CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

BY

THEODORE MARCUS SANDERS

THESIS FOR DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
IN ARCHITECTURE

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
PRESENTED JUNE 1902

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June 1, 1902 190

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE THESIS PREPARED UNDER MY SUPERVISION BY

George William Van Meter

ENTITLED A Municipal Building

IS APPROVED BY ME AS FULFILLING THIS PART OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

OF Bachelor of Science in Architecture

N. C. Ricker

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF Architecture

UIUC

Conservatory of Music.

The problem was to design a building that would meet all of the requirements of the University of Illinois for a school of music. The problem then resolved itself into two parts:

1. The planning of a school of music to contain the following rooms: About fifty studios for piano practise, a recital hall to seat about three hundred and fifty people, a library, private studios for instructors, class rooms and toilet rooms.

2. An auditorium, easily accessible to the public, to seat about 2500 people, with a stage to seat a chorus of 300 and an orchestra of 50. All rooms used in connection with auditorium and stage.

In designing the school the greatest difficulty was encountered in giving direct outside light to each room, in giving the proper privacy to the studios so that disturbance would not be caused in the other parts of the building and in giving the recital hall and library their place of importance in the plan. The problem was finally analysed by making the plan perfectly symetrical about the main axis, putting the rooms for instructors on the main facade,

and using two large open courts, one on either side. The Recital Hall is placed in between these two courts and the studios on each side. The library was then given the position of most importance on the second floor.

The auditorium was connected with the school so as to be easily accessible from it and at the same time the most public part of the building. The auditorium was designed so that it could be easily emptied of crowds. It is entirely surrounded by a corridor, ten feet wide, which connects with the main corridor of the school. Over the corridor is a gallery, reached by four flights of stairs.

The building was designed to have two main fronts; the school facade, which was kept serious and comparatively plain, and the auditorium facade, which was to be seen more by the public, and was therefore made more attractive and decorative. An attempt was made in each facade, to show in the design, the purpose for which the building was to be used.

The building was designed to be of fire-proof construction, throughout. The walls and floors are all to be deadened, so that no sound could pass from one room to another. All corridors and toilet rooms to have tile floors and marble wainscoting. The exterior was designed to be constructed of some warm, buff sandstone, with tile roofs. The dome over the auditorium to be constructed of copper.

The building would occupy a site 300 feet by 320 feet and has a cubic capacity of about 2,600,000 cubic feet.

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Theodore Marcus Sanders

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